

(b) The policy covers housing as well as other habitat issues. The main objective of the policy is shelter for all; it is gender sensitive, it has envisaged a facilitating approach through removal of legal and financial constraints and also through technology intervention. The policy encourages the role of co-operatives and public-private partnerships objective.

(c) to (e) Housing is a State subject. Central Government's focus is addressed towards formulating policy and providing broad guidelines to States. It is for the State Governments to actually implement the policy and to draw action plans to address the housing problems in their States. As a follow up of the National Housing & Habitat Policy, Government have initiated several facilitating steps. The Urban Land Ceiling Act has been repealed; fiscal incentives under the Income Tax Act and in customs and excise duties have been secured in Union Budgets and technology transfer is being done through a network of building centres throughout the country.

Steps to make PM House earthquake resistant

516. SHRI ANIL SHARMA: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Prime Minister House at Race Course, New Delhi is earthquake resistant;

(b) if so, upto what richter scale it can withstand the shock; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and the steps being taken to make it cent-per-cent earthquake resistant?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI JAGMOHAN): (a) and (b) The present Housing Complex of the Hon'ble Prime Minister at Race Course Road was build in 1930s with mud mortar. In those days there were no specific provision for making the building earthquake resistant. However, no serious damages were noticed in these buildings during the last major earthquake in the year 1958 in Delhi.

(c) A Technical Committee has been set up by the Ministry to look into the safety aspects of these buildings and suggest remedial measures, if required.

Corruption in releasing Form 'D' to CGHS

517. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that there is large scale corruption in DDA in releasing Form 'D' to Co-operative Group Housing Societies who apply for the same;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Form 'D' is not released till the managements of the Societies have paid hefty amount to the officers and dealing clerks for obtaining the same; and

(c) the action Government propose to take to streamline the procedure for release of Form 'D' and do away with the corruption in this area?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA): (a) to (c) No, Sir. The DDA has informed that building permits in the Cooperative Group Housing Societies are issued as per procedure given in Unified Building Byelaws and Delhi Development Act. After obtaining sanction and approval of C-Form, the Societies apply for issue of D-Form, as per provisions given in the Building Byelaws in a prescribed format, along with required fees and documents. Within 15 days of the receipt of the application, the field staff of DDA's Building Section inspects the site; and if some deviations beyond the Sanctioned plan are observed, the same are communicated. On compliance of the rectification (if required), provisional compounding fees, (if applicable) and submission of the requisite documents, the case is processed for approval of the D- Form.

However, it has been observed that in the recent past in certain cases, societies took long time to remove the deficiency by depositing the necessary documents and further in depositing the compounding/ regularisation fees, which ultimately takes five to six months in processing and issue of D-Form. In the last one year, *i.e.*, from January, 2000 to January, 2001, 45 cases of Co-operative Group Housing Societies regarding D-Form were received in the Building Section of the DDA. Out of these, till date 36 approvals have been released and communicated; 4 cases were rejected and communicated; 2 cases are pending for want of clarifications from the concerned Societies, one case is pending with the DUAC for clearance for regularisation due to deviations from the Sanctioned plan, one case which concerns Government Institutional Housing has been approved and communicated for deposition of provisional compounding fee and one case has been processed and submitted for approval.